

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Please cancel claims 21-33 without prejudice or disclaimer.

1. (Original) A lead assembly comprising:

a flexible lead body extending from a proximal end to a distal end, the lead body including one or more conductors disposed therein;

the lead body including an outer coating of composite insulative material;

an electrode assembly including at least one electrode electrically coupled with at least one conductor; and

the outer coating of composite insulative material coated directly on at least one conductor.

2. (Original) The lead assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein the one or more conductors includes a first conductor and a second conductor, and at least one coating is coated between the first conductor and the second conductor.

3. (Original) The lead assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein at least one conductor comprises a braided conductor.

4. (Original) The lead assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein one of the conductors extends from a first end to a second end and has an intermediate section therebetween, and a portion of the intermediate section has an exposed, non-coated area.

5. (Original) The lead assembly as recited in claim 4, further comprising one or more electrodes electrically coupled with the exposed non-coated area.

6. (Original) The lead assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein the composite coating comprises a first coating and a second coating coated over the first coating.

7. (Original) The lead assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein the one or more conductors includes a first conductor disposed within a second conductor, and at least one coating is coated between the first conductor and the second conductor, and a layer of insulation is disposed within the first conductor.

8. (Original) A lead assembly comprising:

a flexible lead body extending from a proximal end to a distal end, the lead body including one or more conductors disposed therein, the flexible lead body comprising a first coating disposed directly on a first conductor,

an electrode assembly including at least one electrode electrically coupled with at least one conductor; and

at least one second coating of insulative material coated directly on a second conductor, the at least one second coating is coated between the first conductor and the second conductor.

9. (Original) The lead assembly as recited in claim 8, wherein the first conductor comprises a braided conductor.

10. (Original) The lead assembly as recited in claim 8, wherein the first conductor extends from a first end to a second end and has an intermediate section therebetween, and a portion of the intermediate section has an exposed, non-coated area.

11. (Original) The lead assembly as recited in claim 10, further comprising one or more electrodes mechanically coupled with the exposed non-coated area.

12. (Original) The lead assembly as recited in claim 8, wherein the first conductor comprises a means for extending and retracting the electrode assembly.

13. (Original) The lead assembly as recited in claim 8, further comprising a third coating of insulative material coated directly on the first coating of insulative material.

14. (Original) The lead assembly as recited in claim 13, wherein the first coating is formed of a first material, and the third coating is formed of a second material, and the first material is different than the second material.

15. (Original) A lead assembly comprising:

a lead body extending from a proximal end to a distal end, the lead body including one or more conductors disposed therein, at least one conductor comprising a braided conductor, the braided conductor configured to conduct electrical signals;

an electrode assembly including at least one electrode electrically coupled with at least one conductor; and

at least one coating of insulation coated directly on the braided conductor.

16. (Original) The lead assembly as recited in claim 15, wherein a portion of the at least one coating is removed from the braided conductor to reveal an exposed portion of the braided conductor, and at least one electrode is electrically and mechanically coupled with the exposed portion of the braided conductor.

17. (Original) The lead assembly as recited in claim 15, wherein the braided conductor is rotatable to extend and/or retract at least one electrode.

18. (Original) The lead assembly as recited in claim 15, further comprising a second coating of insulation coated between the braided conductor and a second conductor, and the second coating is coated directly on the second conductor.

19. (Original) The lead assembly as recited in claim 15, the lead body including an outer coating of composite insulative coating.

20. (Original) The lead assembly as recited in claim 19, wherein the composite coating includes at least a first coating and a second coating coated directly on the first coating.

21-33. (Canceled)

Conclusion

Claims 21-33 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1-20 are now pending. The Applicant respectfully requests that the preliminary amendment described herein be entered into the record prior to the examination and consideration of the above-identified application. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney at (612) 359-3276 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully Submitted,

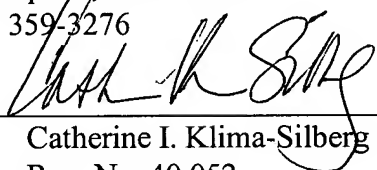
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Date June 17, 2004

By


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